

# QUICK REFERENCE



# RCC

Rogue Community College



## Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse

Community college employees in Oregon are required to report child abuse under Oregon law. The duty to report suspected child abuse cases as a mandatory reporter is a 24-hour-a-day, 7 day-a-week responsibility. This legal duty is personal to you as a community college employee and applies whether or not you are on work time.

Employees of higher education institutions were added to the list of mandatory reporters with House Bill 4016 passed in the 2012 Legislative Session. For the complete list of professions, see Oregon Revised Statute 419B.005.

### What is child abuse?

“Child” means an unmarried person under the age of 18. “Abuse” includes physical injury caused by other than accidental means, mental injury, sexual abuse and exploitation, negligent treatment, threatening harm of a child, unlawful exposure to a controlled substance or unlawful manufacturing of a cannabinoid extract. Abuse does not include reasonable discipline unless the discipline results in one of these conditions.

### Who do I contact?

Make a report either to the local Department of Human Services (DHS) or local law enforcement office. Reports can be made over the telephone or in person.

Telephone numbers for the local DHS offices appear on DHS’s internet homepage. If you do not have access to the internet, or if you must make your report after 5:00 p.m., then the DHS webpage suggests dialing 911. It is important to remember that filing a report with the college does not satisfy the legal obligation to contact DHS or law enforcement because the mandatory reporting law is in addition to any policy adopted by your employer.

### What information should I provide?

A report should include the following information: names and address of the child and parent, child’s age, the type and extent of the abuse, any evidence of previous abuse, an explanation for the abuse, and any other information that might establish the cause of abuse or identity of the abuser.

### When should I report?

You must make the report immediately upon having a reasonable and good faith belief that child abuse occurred.

### Sources

- ORS 419B.005 - 419B.050, ORS 475B.015
- <http://www.oregon.gov/dhs/children/pages/abuse/cps/report.aspx>

### Is my report confidential?

A reporter’s identity will not be disclosed to the extent allowed by law.

### Can I be sued for making a report?

Any person who makes a report is immune from liability when the report was reasonably believed and made in good faith.

### What if I choose not to report?

Failure to report child abuse is a violation of the law and carries a penalty of up to \$2,000.

## RCC Procedure:

1. Make a report to the local DHS or law enforcement office (contact information listed below).
2. Advise RCC Risk Management by sending an email to Wendy Jones, [wjones@rogucecc.edu](mailto:wjones@rogucecc.edu).

### DHS Jackson County

541-858-3197

### After Hours Contacts:

Jackson County Sheriff  
541-774-6800, local police,  
or 911 if emergency

<https://web.rogucecc.edu/administrative-procedures/mandatory-child-abuse-reporting-an-012>

## CONTACTS FOR REPORTING

### Dedicated child abuse hotline:

Toll Free: 866-840-2741

Oregon State Police: 541-474-3174

### DHS Josephine County

541-858-3197

### After Hours Contacts:

Josephine County Sheriff  
541-474-5123,  
Grants Pass Public Safety  
541-450-6260, or 911 if  
emergency